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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Black Sea)

DATE DISTR. 19 December 1952

SUBJECT Conditions in Odessa

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2.

A soldier stationed at the gangplank examined the passes and the passports or discharge books of the crew members going ashore. There was a similar check at the dock-yard gate. The crew members were not subjected to a personal search

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3. The usual type of payment for prostitution is some small luxury article, like an artificial silk head scarf. If apprehended during these transactions, the foreign seaman is usually not arrested though the Soviet receiver may be.

4. Women form a large part of the dock labor force. The workers were polite but aloof and would accept neither cigarettes nor coffee. This attitude of aloof friendliness was quite general in the dock area.

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5. Odessa itself has had little reconstruction since the bombings of World War II. In some cases not even the blitzed rubble has been removed. The people appeared well-fed but poorly clad. In contrast, the wives of the high ranking officials and officers were elegantly

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dressed and the children also looked well-clothed. There were few cars and no bicycles.

6. Ashore, the people seemed very freindly. The promenade which over-looks the harbor is a very popular boulevard and on Sundays it is usually crowded with strollers. many of them with cameras.

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